

County of Los Angeles
Sheriff's Department Headquarters
4700 Ramona Boulevard
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169



April 24, 2011

Deputy Renna Chey, #[redacted]
[redacted]

Dear Deputy Chey:

On November 16, 2010, you were served with a Letter of Intention, indicating your right to respond to the Sheriff's Department's pending disciplinary action against you, as reported under IAB File Number 2235173. You were also advised of your right to review the material on which the discipline was based.

You did exercise your right to respond. However, after review and consideration of the response submitted to support your position, Department executives determined that the recommended discipline is appropriate.

You are hereby notified that you are suspended without pay from your position of Deputy Sheriff, Item No. 2708A, with this Department for a period of fifteen (15) days effective April 25, 2011 through May 9, 2011.

An investigation under File Number IAB 2235173, conducted by Internal Affairs Bureau, coupled with your own statements, has established the following:

1. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/030.05, General Behavior; and/or 3-01/000.10, Professional Conduct; and/or 3-01/030.07, Immoral Conduct; and/or 3-01/050.10, Performance to Standards, on or about January 4, 2009, after responding to an alleged domestic violence incident involving a [redacted] and [redacted], you failed to maintain a level of moral conduct which is in keeping with the highest standards of the law enforcement profession and/or conducted yourself in a manner which caused the Department to be brought into disrepute, as evidenced by, but not limited to:

a) kissing an extremely intoxicated female victim of an alleged domestic violence incident on the mouth, without her consent.

Your actions of going to a domestic violence call and taking advantage of an intoxicated female victim are contrary to this Department's Core Values, Mission and Creed and resulted in the female victim making allegations of rape against you. Thus, you failed to conform to the work standards established for your position as a deputy sheriff, bringing discredit and embarrassment upon yourself and the Sheriff's Department.

2. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/040.76, Obstructing an Investigation/Influencing a Witness and/or 3-01/040.70, False Statements, on or about January 4, 2009, you lied during a criminal investigation concerning your actions with a female victim of an alleged domestic violence incident, including but not limited to, stating you did not kiss Complainant [redacted] thereby unduly obstructing and/or delaying their investigation of the incident.

3. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Section 3-01/040.75, Failure to Make Statements and/or Making False Statements During Departmental Internal Investigations, on or about March 1, 2010, during your subject interview, you made false statements to investigators, including but not limited to, that you did not kiss Complainant [redacted]

Prior to imposing this disciplinary action, I have thoroughly reviewed the incident and your record with this Department.

You will hereby take notice that any future acts of misconduct may result in more severe disciplinary action.

You may appeal the Department's action in this matter pursuant to Rules 4.02, 4.05, and 18.01 of the Civil Service Rules.

Within fifteen (15) business days from the date of service of this notice of suspension, you may request a hearing on these charges before the Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission, 222 North Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90012.

The Sheriff's Department reserves the right to amend and/or add to this letter.

Sincerely,

LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

Original Signed

Joseph H. Stephen Jr., Captain
Commander, Malibu/Lost Hills Station

Note: Attached for your convenience are excerpts of the applicable areas of the Manual of Policy and Procedures and Civil Service Rules.

JHS:JMG:jp

c: Advocacy Unit
Neal B. Tyler, Chief, Field Operations Region I
Internal Affairs Bureau
Personnel Administration
Office of Independent Review (OIR)
Malibu/Lost Hills Station/unit Personnel File

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
PERSONNEL INVESTIGATION

DATE	No. OF SUBJECTS	UNIT(S) INVOLVED	I.A.B. FILE No.
05-13-10	1	Lost Hills Station	IV 2235173

MANUAL SECTIONS ALLEGEDLY VIOLATED (BY TITLE AND No.)
General Behavior 3-01/030.05, Immoral Conduct 3-01/030.07, Obedience to Laws, Regulations and Orders 3-01/030.10,
Performance to Standards 3-01/050.10

DATE, TIME, DAY OF OCCURRENCE	RELATED URN FILE No. IF APPLICABLE
January 4, 2009, between 0130 - 0200 hours, Sunday	009-00001-2003-441

LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE: [redacted] N. Alfredo Court, Agoura Hills, California 91303

SOURCE OF COMPLAINT: ☐ COMMUNITY ☒ SUPERVISION W/C REPORT No. ____ ☐ OTHER SOURCES (SPECIFY) ____

SUBJECT	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	M.I.	RANK OR TITLE	EMP. No.
No. 1 OF 1	Chey	Renna	H.	Deputy Sheriff Generalist	[redacted]

UNIT OF ASSIGNMENT	DATE ASSIGNED	DIVISION OR REGION
Lost Hills Station	04/08	F.O.R. 1

STATUS OF SUBJECT: ☐ CONTINUING ON DUTY ☒ RELIEVED OF DUTY - REASSIGNED TO: Fleet Services ☐ OTHER ____

SEX	RACE	HAIR	EYES	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	D.O.B.	AGE
Male	Asian	Black	Brown	509	190	04-04-72	37

DATE OF HIRE	DATE APPOINTED TO RANK	INTERVIEW TAPE RECORDED ON
10-10-06	[redacted]	TAPE Digital OF #28560 SIDE ☐ A ☐ B DATE 03-01-10 TIME 1203 hrs

PREVIOUS 7 YEAR FOUNDED INVESTIGATIONS (EXCLUDING TRAFFIC)

DATE	I.A.B. FILE No.	MANUAL SECTION(S) VIOLATED	DISCIPLINE
		None	

SUBJECT	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	M.I.	RANK OR TITLE	EMP. No.
No. OF					

UNIT OF ASSIGNMENT	DATE ASSIGNED	DIVISION OR REGION

STATUS OF SUBJECT: ☐ CONTINUING ON DUTY ☐ RELIEVED OF DUTY - REASSIGNED TO: ____ ☐ OTHER ____

SEX	RACE	HAIR	EYES	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	D.O.B.	AGE

DATE OF HIRE	DATE APPOINTED TO RANK	INTERVIEW TAPE RECORDED ON
		TAPE ____ OF ____ SIDE ☐ A ☐ B DATE ____ TIME ____

PREVIOUS 7 YEAR FOUNDED INVESTIGATIONS (EXCLUDING TRAFFIC)

DATE	I.A.B. FILE No.	MANUAL SECTION(S) VIOLATED	DISCIPLINE

CODE: C - COMPLAINANT, W - WITNESS ADDITIONAL COMPLAINANTS, WITNESSES, OR SUBJECTS ON SUPPLEMENTAL PAGES ☐ YES ☐ NO

CODE	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	M.I.	SEX	RACE	D.O.B.
C No. 1 OF 1	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Female	White	[redacted]

RESIDENCE ADDRESS: [redacted]
RES. PHONE (AREA CODE): [redacted]
BUSINESS ADDRESS OR UNIT OF ASSIGNMENT: Unemployed
CDL OR LASD EMPLOYEE NO.: [redacted]
BUS. PHONE (AREA CODE): ( )
INTERVIEW TAPE RECORDED ON: TAPE ICIB OF EXHIBIT E SIDE ☐ A ☐ B DATE ____ TIME ____

CODE	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	M.I.	SEX	RACE	D.O.B.
W No. 1 OF 1	Sage	Amber		Female		adult

RESIDENCE ADDRESS: Senior Criminalist - Scientific Services Bureau
RES. PHONE (AREA CODE): ( )
BUSINESS ADDRESS OR UNIT OF ASSIGNMENT: 1800 Paseo Rancho Castilla, Los Angeles 90032
CDL OR LASD EMPLOYEE NO.: Emp # [redacted]
BUS. PHONE (AREA CODE): [redacted]
INTERVIEW TAPE RECORDED ON: TAPE Digital OF #28905 SIDE ☐ A ☐ B DATE 04-21-10 TIME 1500

PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR	RANK	EMP. No.	APPROVED	DATE
Trent Denison	Sergeant	[redacted]	[signature]	5/24/10
ASSISTING INVESTIGATOR	RANK	EMP. No.	DATE SUBMITTED	

SH-AD-669-2/93 IF ADDITIONAL SUBJECTS, WITNESSES, COMPLAINANTS OR DISCIPLINE HISTORIES, LIST ON CONTINUATION PAGES.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY
IAB CASE # IV 2235173

COMPLAINANT: [redacted] FW/22

SUBJECT: Deputy Renna Chey #[redacted]
Lost Hills Station

LOCATION: [redacted] N. Alfredo Court, Agoura Hills, California 91301

DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT: January 4, 2009, Between 0130 - 0200 hours, Sunday

DATE OF DEPARTMENT KNOWLEDGE: January 4, 2009

ALLEGATIONS

It is alleged Subject Chey, while handling a call for service at the location, kissed Complainant [redacted] on the lips, hugged her, digitally penetrated her vagina, and contacted her several times in person and via his personal cell phone, during the course of his shift.

POLICY SECTIONS

1.	General Behavior	MPP 3-01/030.05
2.	Immoral Conduct	MPP 3-01/030.07
3.	Obedience to Laws, Regulations, and Orders	MPP 3-01/030.10
4.	Performance to Standards	MPP 3-01/050.10

SYNOPSIS

On January 4, 2009, Lost Hills Station received a call for service from Complainant Ms. [redacted] regarding a domestic violence incident between her and her [redacted] Mr. [redacted] Subject Chey, along with his car partner, Deputy Williams, responded to Ms. [redacted] residence. Upon their arrival, they found their assisting unit had already arrived and detained Ms. [redacted] in their patrol car. Subject Chey contacted Ms. [redacted] to ascertain if a crime had occurred and eventually determined there was no crime. The assisting unit transported Mr. [redacted] from the location, per his request, and left him at a gas station to be picked up by a friend.

During Subject Chey's investigation, he and Deputy Williams searched the house for a suspect (prior to learning the suspect had already been detained). Subject Chey then questioned Ms. [redacted] about domestic violence and he viewed her arms for evidence of assault. While

talking to Ms. [redacted] the deputies noted that she was extremely intoxicated and visibly upset about her argument with her [redacted]

Subject Chey made effort to calm her down and gain her confidence by smoking a cigarette with her on her back patio and he gave her his personal cell phone number. He told her that if she became afraid her [redacted] would return, she should call 911 and if she wanted him to come by and check on her, to call his (Chey's) cell phone since he would be in the area. He also told her that he would call her shortly after they left, to ensure she was okay.

Ms. [redacted] alleged that Subject Chey alone, walked her to her upstairs bedroom to tuck her into bed and while there, hugged her and kissed her on the lips for several seconds. She said he then placed his hand inside her pants and inserted his right index and middle fingers into her vagina, moving them back and forth a few times as they stood by her bed. She said she told him to stop and she pulled his hand from her pants. She said Subject Chey told her that he liked her and not to tell anyone about what he had done, and then he left the location.

Shortly after Subject Chey left the location, he called Ms. [redacted] to check on her welfare and she told him her [redacted] came back to get his sunglasses. Subject Chey then returned to the location to ensure she was okay.

A short while after Subject Chey had left the location the second time, he called Ms. [redacted] and a male (later determined to be Ms. [redacted] answered the phone. Subject Chey quickly hung up then called her number again. Ms. [redacted] told Subject Chey that Ms. [redacted] claimed he (Chey) had raped her. Subject Chey said he then called Malibu Station and advised the Watch Sergeant of Ms. [redacted] allegation against him.

The field Sergeants, Arnold & Lupian were dispatched to the location, however they were under the assumption they were going there in response to the earlier domestic violence incident. Subject Chey and Deputy Williams also responded. When they arrived, Ms. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] answered the door and Ms. [redacted] pointed toward Subject Chey, and said Subject Chey had raped her. Subject Chey returned to his car and drove to the station. A crime report was written (included on page 43 of the ICIB Investigation Book **Exhibit A**) and ICIB was notified and responded.

ICIB documented their investigation in the ICIB Investigation Book [**Exhibit A**].

On January 11, 2010, the District Attorney's office authored a Letter of Opinion regarding this incident. The District Attorney declined to file charges, stating; "Based on [redacted] numerous inconsistent statements, lack of recall and the lack of corroborative evidence, the probability of a successful prosecution is extremely remote. Consequently, the available evidence is insufficient to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Deputy Renna Chey committed a sexual assault. Therefore, we are closing our file and will take no further action in this matter." For more information, see the District Attorney's Letter of Opinion included in [**Exhibit C**]

INVESTIGATION

On the date of this incident, ICIB detectives responded to the location to investigate the criminal allegations against Subject Chey. They interviewed numerous witnesses and Ms. [redacted] and Subject Chey. Subject Chey agreed to participate in a sexual assault examination, as did Ms [redacted] and physical evidence was obtained. A copy of the DNA test results report may be viewed in [**Exhibit B**]. ICIB detectives retrieved Subject Chey's and Ms. [redacted] phone records, which show Subject Chey called Ms. [redacted] on his personal cell phone.

On January 4, 2009, Ms. [redacted] was interviewed by ICIB detectives. She told them she had been in a argument with her [redacted] Mr. [redacted] earlier in the evening. She said Subject Chey arrived with numerous other deputies and Mr. [redacted] was taken away from the location by the deputies. She said Subject Chey asked her if he could smoke a cigarette with her and they each smoked a cigarette on the back patio of her home. She claimed Subject Chey escorted her to her bedroom to "tuck her in" and while they stood next to her bed, Subject Chey put his hand inside her pants and put two of his fingers inside her vagina. She claimed Subject Chey also kissed her on her lips. She told detectives that she removed Subject Chey's hand from inside her pants and they stopped kissing. She added that Subject Chey told her not to tell anyone what he had done. Ms. [redacted] said she later told Mr. [redacted] that Subject Chey had raped her and Mr. [redacted] returned to the location.

On March 1, 2010, Subject Deputy **Renna Chey** was interviewed by IAB investigators. Subject Chey said he responded to the location regarding a call for service involving domestic violence. He said he contacted Ms. [redacted] and found that she had been in a argument with Mr. [redacted] but that no crime had occurred. Subject Chey said Ms. [redacted] was obviously upset and crying so he tried to comfort her by sitting with her on her back patio and each smoked a cigarette. He said he had quit smoking years before but felt that if he had a cigarette with her, she would calm down. He said Ms. [redacted] provided him with a cigarette of hers. Subject Chey said he placed the cigarette in his mouth and lit it before handing it to Ms. [redacted] to smoke. He then lit a cigarette for himself to smoke but did not finish it prior to placing it in the ashtray on her patio table.

IAB note: **Subject Chey told ICIB detectives that he did not smoke/share the same cigarette with Ms. [redacted] they each smoked their own cigarettes. See page 21 of Subject Chey's ICIB interview transcription. In response to the DNA results, Subject Chey's attorney, Ms. Elizabeth Gibbons, authored a letter of explanation [Exhibit D], stating Subject Chey and Ms. [redacted] shared the same cigarette.**

Subject Chey said his partner, Deputy Williams stood at the patio door during the time they were on the patio and until Subject Chey completed his conversation with Ms. [redacted] Subject Chey said he and his partner left the location together. He said he waited approximately thirty minutes, then used his cell phone to call Ms. [redacted] in order to check on her welfare. He said Ms. [redacted]

told him Mr [redacted] had returned for his sunglasses and she asked him to check the area in case her [redacted] was still around.

Subject Chey said he and Deputy Williams returned to Ms. [redacted] home to check on her welfare. He said Deputy Williams stayed in the car while he, Subject Chey, met Ms. [redacted] at her front door. He said she asked him to step inside so her dog would not run away however, he went in several steps but left the front door open. He said Deputy Williams illuminated him with the car's spotlight as he talked with Ms. [redacted] because he felt uneasy talking to her alone.

IAB note: **Deputy Williams told ICIB investigators that, although he could not see Subject Chey after Subject Chey stepped inside the home, he did not turn his spotlight on or illuminate the home.**

Subject Chey said he spoke with Ms. [redacted] for a few moments but did not check inside the home for her [redacted] as he did the first time he was there. Subject Chey said he left after several minutes of talking to Ms. [redacted]

Subject Chey said that a short time after leaving Ms. [redacted] home the second time, he called her again and a male answered her phone. He said the male accused him of raping Ms. [redacted] and that he would lose his badge and job for doing so. The male was later determined to be Ms. [redacted] Mr [redacted] Subject Chey added that he told Mr. [redacted] that he had not done as accused and asked to speak with Ms. [redacted] He said Mr. [redacted] refused to let him speak with Ms. [redacted] so he told Mr. [redacted] that Ms. [redacted] should call the station to make a report if she believed he, Subject Chey, had raped her. Subject Chey said he hung up and called his Watch Sergeant to report the allegation just made against him by Mr. [redacted]

Subject Chey denied touching Ms. [redacted] in any way other than when he held her arms to examen them for visible signs of injury during his initial domestic violence investigation. He said he did not go to her room to tuck her in bed and he never placed his hand in her pants or put his fingers inside her vagina. He denied hugging her and he said they never kissed each other. He said he made a mistake by giving her his personal cell phone number but only did so because he wanted to comfort her since she had been so upset about her argument with Mr. [redacted]

On April 21, 2010, IAB investigators interviewed Senior Criminalist, **Amber Sage**, who conducted the DNA analysis and authored the DNA Analysis Report **[Exhibit B]**. Witness Sage said she conducted DNA testing of samples given to her which were obtained during the sexual assault exam of Ms. [redacted], and Subject Chey. She also tested a sample obtained from the oral sample of Mr. [redacted] She explained that "perioral" samples are taken from the area surrounding the mouth and that Ms. [redacted] DNA was found on Subject Chey and Subject Chey's DNA was found on Ms. [redacted] She added that Ms. [redacted] DNA was also found on both of Subject Chey's hands. Witness Sage said the DNA found could not be identified specifically as DNA from vaginal fluid or saliva. She said while highly unlikely the DNA was transferred from Ms. [redacted] and Subject Chey's mouth area by sharing the same cigarette, she

could not rule out that this might have happened. Witness Sage said she was able to rule out Mr. [redacted] as a contributor to the DNA found on Ms. [redacted] and Subject Chey. For more information, see the attached verbatim transcription of Senior Criminalist Amber Sage's IAB interview.

Witness Deputy **Anthony Williams** told ICIB investigators on January 4, 2009, that he was partnered with Subject Chey for the shift and went to the location in response to a domestic violence call. He said he and Subject Chey searched the house for her [redacted] before realizing that her [redacted] had already been detained by another unit. He said Subject Chey talked with Ms. [redacted] while she tried to locate her car keys in order to drive to the store for cigarettes. Witness Williams said that he left Subject Chey with Ms. [redacted] near the front door inside the house, while he went to Ms. [redacted] car to see if the keys were left inside it. When he returned approximately five minutes later, he noticed Subject Chey and Ms. [redacted] were no longer standing where he had left them. He found them sitting at a table on the back patio, talking while Ms. [redacted] smoked a cigarette. They left the home after being there for approximately thirty minutes.

Witness Williams said Subject Chey called Ms. [redacted] a while after they had left the location, to ask her why she was so upset if her [redacted] did not hit her. He said Subject Chey advised him that Ms. [redacted] said her [redacted] had returned so they went to her home to check on her welfare. Witness Williams said he noticed Subject Chey walk inside the home to talk with Ms. [redacted] but he was unable to see inside the open front door because it was dark inside. He could not see Subject Chey after he walked several steps inside the door. Witness Williams said he contacted Subject Chey on the radio, utilizing "Direct" mode, after two to five minutes and told Subject Chey that he wanted to leave. He added that he did not respond to the front door with Subject Chey and he did not realize Subject Chey was going to go inside until Chey did so.

Witness Williams said Subject Chey had mentioned something to him about Ms. [redacted] wanting to hug him (Chey) but he told her no. Witness Williams added that Subject Chey mentioned something about going back to Ms. [redacted] home after shift but that he thought Subject Chey meant it in a joking way.

Witness Williams said Subject Chey received phone calls on his cell phone and one of the calls upset Subject Chey. He said Subject Chey told him Mr. [redacted] accused him of raping Ms. [redacted] so they drove back to her home and Subject Chey called Ms. [redacted] and told her to come outside to talk however, she refused. Witness Williams said he told Subject Chey they should leave and call the station since the allegation was serious. A while later, they returned to the location with Sergeants Arnold and Lupian to contact Ms. [redacted] While there, Ms. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] came to the door and he (Witness Williams) asked Ms. [redacted] what happened after he told her he was aware of Mr. [redacted] accusing Subject Chey of raping her. He said Ms. [redacted] told them several times, nothing happened. Witness Williams said Mr. [redacted] told her to tell the same thing

she told him and that was Subject Chey raped her. Witness Williams said Mr. [redacted] and Ms. [redacted] argued and Subject Chey returned to the car. Witness Williams said he heard Ms. [redacted] ultimately allege Subject Chey and penetrated her vagina with his finger.

Witness Williams stated that he believed Ms. [redacted] was using Subject Chey in order to get her [redacted] to stay with her and not end their relationship. For more information regarding Witness Williams statements, see pages 13 - 18 of the ICIB Investigative Book.

A CD containing ICIB's interviews in this case is included in **Exhibit E**.